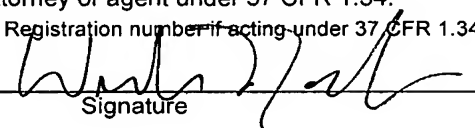
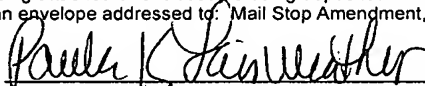


<b>PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) FY 2006</b> (Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).)		Docket Number (Optional) D0188.70170US02	
Application Number 10/737,197-Conf. #5833		Filed December 16, 2003	
For <b>SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE</b>			
Art Unit 3731		Examiner A. T. Lang	
This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application. The requested extension and fee are as follows (check time period desired and enter the appropriate fee below):			
	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Small Entity Fee</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))	\$120	\$60	\$ 120.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))	\$450	\$225	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))	\$1020	\$510	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))	\$1590	04/03/2007 09:55 FAX1 00000005 10737197	
<input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))	\$2160	01 FC:181080	\$ 120.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.			
<input type="checkbox"/> The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number <u>23/2825</u> . I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.			
I am the <input type="checkbox"/> applicant/inventor.			
<input type="checkbox"/> assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent of record. Registration Number <u>52,078</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34. Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 _____			
 Signature		<u>March 29, 2007</u> Date	
<u>Walt Norfleet</u> Typed or printed name		<u>(617) 646-8000</u> Telephone Number	
NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Total of <u>1</u> forms are submitted.			

<b>Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)</b>	
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Dated: March 29, 2007	Signature:  (Paula K. Fairweather)